

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OPEN SESSION
ILLINOIS GAMING BOARD
August 15, 2006
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

NOTE: ITEMS IN **BOLDFACE PRINT** REFLECT OFFICIAL BOARD ACTIONS

On Tuesday, August 15, 2006 a Regular Meeting of the Illinois Gaming Board ("Board") was held in the conference room of the Gaming Board Offices on the 3rd floor at 160 N. LaSalle for closed session.

The following Board Members were present: Chairman Aaron Jaffe, Members Charles Gardner, Joseph Moore, Eugene Winkler and James Sullivan.

At 9:55 A.M. Chairman Jaffe called the meeting to order. Pursuant to Section 2(c), paragraphs (1), (11), (14) and (21) of the Open Meetings Act and Section 6(d) of the Riverboat Gambling Act, Member Gardner moved that **the Board retire to Closed Session to discuss the items listed under Closed Session on today's agenda and relating to the following subject matters:**

- 1. Personnel matters;**
- 2. Pending Litigation;**
- 3. Investigations concerning applicants and licensees; and**
- 4. Closed Session Minutes.**

Member Winkler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

The Board convened its Open session at 1:40 P.M. pursuant to motion.

Roll was taken, all members present.

Approval of Minutes

Member Gardner moved that **the Board approve the closed and open session minutes of its Regular Meeting of July 18, 2006.** Member Winkler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Jaffe recognized Trudy Curtis and Eleni Markos commented on their hard work involving the 9 Internal Control submissions. He congratulated them for their outstanding work. The Chairman also went on to name Doug Bybee as the Deputy Administrator of Audit & Financial Analysis Division.

Member Moore went on to say that he was encouraged that some of the casinos will be conducting the business fairs. Member Moore also went on to mention that Harrah's Joliet will be conducting a business fair and down the road Hollywood Casino Aurora will also be having one. He also went on to say that achieving results is what is important.

Administrator's Report

Mark Ostrowski stated that there will be a General Manager's meeting in October, 2006.

Member Moore went on to state that he had committed a Board member would be available to attend the General Manager's meeting.

Administrator Ostrowski indicated that one additional speaker will address the Board today during Open Session; Mr. Roseborough, Executive Director from the Illinois Counsel on Problem Gambling.

OWNER LICENSEE ITEMS

- Par-A-Dice – Marianne Boyd-Johnson, Owner, Key Person

Based on a review of staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Gardner moved that **the Board approve Marianne Boyd-Johnson as a Key Person of Par-A-Dice Casino Corporation.** Member Winkler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

- Par-A-Dice Casino Corporation – Jeffery M. Perry, Regional Internal Audit Supervisor, Central Region of Boyd Gaming Corporation – Key Person

Based on a review of staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Winkler moved that **the Board approve Jeffery M. Perry as a Key Person of Par-A-Dice Casino Corporation.** Member Gardner seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

- Hollywood Casino – Gregg W. Hart, Vice President of Internal Audit - Key Person

Based on a review of staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Sullivan moved that **the Board approve Gregg W. Hart as a Key Person of Hollywood Casino.** Member Winkler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

- Harrah's Metropolis – Bruce G. Loprete, Director of Security Harrah's Metropolis – Level One

Based on a review of staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Moore moved that **the Board approve Bruce G. Loprete as a Level One Occupational Licensee of Southern Illinois Riverboat Casino Cruises Inc. d/b/a Harrah's Metropolis Casino.** Member Gardner seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

- Casino Queen, Inc. – David J. Spihlmann Jr., Internal Auditor – Level One

Based on a review of staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Moore moved **that the Board approve David J. Spihlmann Jr. as a Level One Occupational Licensee of Casino Queen, Inc.** Member Gardner seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

OCCUPATIONAL LICENSES APPROVALS & DENIALS

Based on staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Sullivan moved that **the Board approve 32 applications for an Occupational License, Level 2, and 193 applications for an Occupational License, Level 3.**

Further, Member Sullivan moved that **the Board direct the Administrator to issue a Notice of Denial to Thomas A. Parks, an applicant for a Level 3 license, who previously received notice that staff intended to recommend denial and either did not respond or provide additional information to rebut that recommendation.**

Member Winkler seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

PROPOSED COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- Velma Brown, Security Officer

Based on the staff's investigation and recommendation, Member Winkler moved that the Board issue a Disciplinary Complaint against Velma Brown, a Level 2 Occupational Licensee, for failing to comply with the Illinois Riverboat Gambling Act and the Board's Adopted Rules in relation to her theft from Empress Casino Joliet.

Further, Member Winkler moved that **the Board revoke Ms. Brown's Occupational License. Said action to take affect twenty-one (21) days from the date of service of this complaint unless the licensee files an Answer within that time period.**

Member Moore seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion unanimously by roll call vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Tom Swoik addresses the Board in open session. Here is his presentation in its entirety.

I am here today to keep you apprised of the status of implementation of the activities to strengthen the Voluntary Statewide Self-Exclusion Program. Secondly, I would like to discuss

the numerous activities of the Illinois casinos related to The American Gaming Association's Responsible Gaming Education Week.

As you are aware, the Association has always supported numerous activities related to responsible gaming including the Problem Gambling Hotline 1-800-GAMBLER, administered by Bensinger, Dupont and Associates, since 1996.

The members of the Illinois Casino Gaming Association also enthusiastically support the American Gaming Association's (AGA) Responsible Gaming Education Week. The AGA created Responsible Gaming Week in 1998 to increase awareness of problem gambling among gaming employees and customers and to promote responsible gaming nationwide. The week of August 7-11, 2006, last week, marked the ninth year for this event. This year the theme was "Be Responsible, Get Educated" and is symbolized by orange wristbands similar to those made popular by Lance Armstrong, stating "KEEP IT FUN". I have provided you with some of these wristbands.

The information provided this year by the AGA included not only the theme "KEEP IT FUN" wristbands in English and Spanish, but also media advisory information, Responsible Gaming Activities Workbooks, buttons, ribbons, stickers, brochures, posters, and table tents for employee lounges. The objective of the campaign is to involve employees in activities to promote responsible gaming. Employees are trained to explain to patrons the significance of the wristband, button, sticker or ribbon they are wearing during Responsible Gaming Education Week.

Prior to Responsible Gaming Education Week, management at the casinos provided training to staff not only related to the week's activities, but also as a refresher to the training **every** employee receives related to responsible gaming.

Additional activities conducted in conjunction with Responsible Gaming Education Week at various casinos included:

- Displaying posters throughout the properties;
- Providing information to employees via paycheck stuffers;
- Free lunch for employees during the kick-off day for the week
- Displaying table tents in employee lunch rooms and lounges, reeducating employees about protocols and procedures related to responsible gaming;
- Explaining the company's protocols for responsible gaming and the roles of employees through formal letters and memos from top company management;
- Conducting employee contests to identify key terms related to responsible gaming initiatives;

- Discussing issues related to responsible gaming during employee meetings;
- Providing information and advertising, promoting responsible gaming in direct mail pieces and a local newspaper.
- Newsletters with information about the week, and
- Comprehensive training for management staff

Although Responsible Gaming Education Week is a special industry-wide collaborative effort, we are actively involved in improving responsible gaming efforts throughout the year.

Now I'd like to update you on the status of implementing the improvements to the Statewide Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program. I would like to personally thank Administrator Ostrowski, Mike Fries, Gene O'Shea, Kathy Spain and all the other staff who have assisted with the implementation of these improvements. I would also like to thank Trudy Curtis and Eleni Markos for their assistance in approving the internal controls.

All casinos are scanning driver's licenses or other government issued ID's of individuals who appear to be under 30 years of age and comparing the information to the Self-Exclusion list.

Second, casinos are requesting local law enforcement agencies to arrest the first time and every time individuals who are on the list and attempt to enter a casino or are detected in the casino. In some rare cases the local law enforcement agencies may not arrest because of manpower issues.

Third, new signage has been posted at all casino entrances. The following language appears either on two individual signs or one sign.

“ All patrons who appear to be 30 years of age or younger will be required to provide a valid state issued drivers license, state identification card or other government issued identification card for entrance to the casino pursuant to Illinois Gaming Board Regulation”

“Warning: Any person enrolled in the Illinois Gaming Board Statewide Self-Exclusion Program will be subject to arrest for trespassing and prosecuted to the fullest extent permitted by law for attempting to enter or entering any part of an Illinois casino property.

Fourth, A \$250 Incentive payment for employees has been implemented.

Fifth, All systems have been networked with the self-exclusion list. These include, but are not limited to players cards, check cashing, issuance of w2g's and table games ratings.

Sixth, The IGB Statewide Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program contact information has been added to the ICGA operation Bet Smart Brochures that are available at all casinos.

Seventh, A letter is being mailed to all current enrollees of the Self-Exclusion program reminding them of their responsibilities, indicating the new arrest policy and providing a list of resources to help them. This mailing should be completed today or tomorrow.

Finally, your staff are working to update their Self-exclusion application forms and brochure to strengthen the arrest language.

In summary, the casino industry in Illinois is committed to responsible gaming, has effective programs in place to bring that message to our employees and customers and is actively working as an industry to make our programs even more effective.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this important issue.

The Chairman went on to thank Tom Swoik for his help in getting the program underway. Member Gardner also went on to thank Tom Swoik, and finding out that Gaming Education week was last week; today, was after the fact. Tom went on to state that he had sent some information out, but it was delayed in the mail.

Mr. Roseborough of the Illinois Council on Problem Gambling was the next speaker. Mr. Roseborough stated his title in the agency. Mr. Roseborough went on to say that the agency now has 13 new Board members from every aspect of life. He went on to say that they are affiliated with the National Counsel of Problem Gambling. Mr. Roseborough stated that gambling is a behavior that causes many disruptions in one's life, with education in communities via schools, churches and organizations. He went on to commend the Illinois Gaming Board in addressing under age gambling in casinos. Mr. Roseborough stated that his agency is in full support of the Illinois Gaming Board.

The Chairman stated that Mr. Roseborough is a welcome to our agency.

Member Gardner asked for some background from Mr. Roseborough. Mr. Roseborough went on to state his background and how long he has been involved with problem gambling. He himself had a problem with problem gambling.

At 2:10 p.m. Member Winkler moved to adjourn . Member Gardner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary C. Boruta
Secretary to the Administrator